

Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program

Updates from the Semi-Annual Report 1 April – 30 September 2020

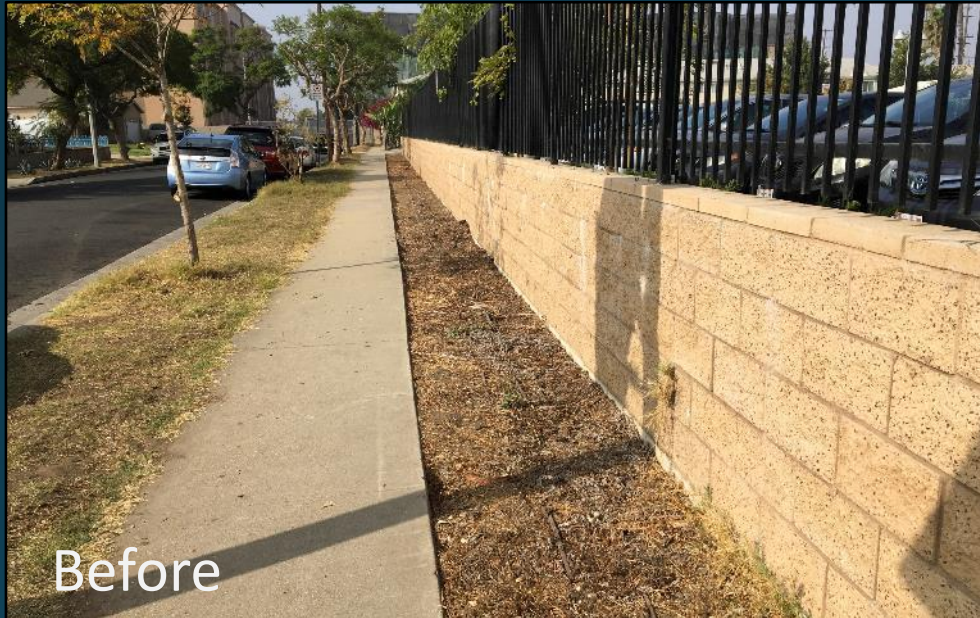
Governing Board Meeting
October 22, 2020
Item 4.a

TBF Community Engagement Program: Boater Education Program

- Received funding from Coastal Quest to integrate MPA outreach into BEP
- Monitored 72 public sewage pumpouts
 - 10 were non-operational and 4 were inaccessible due to COVID-19
 - Average usability = 74%
 - 100% of units tested with biodegradable dye tablets were leak-free
- Conducted 5 virtual Dockwalker trainings



TBF Community Engagement Program: Table to Farm Project



- Constructed three raised and two in-ground garden beds at Environmental Charter Middle School-Inglewood (ECMS-I)
- Garden is located outside of ECMS-I's gates and is available to all community members



TBF Marine Program: Kelp Restoration Project

White Point

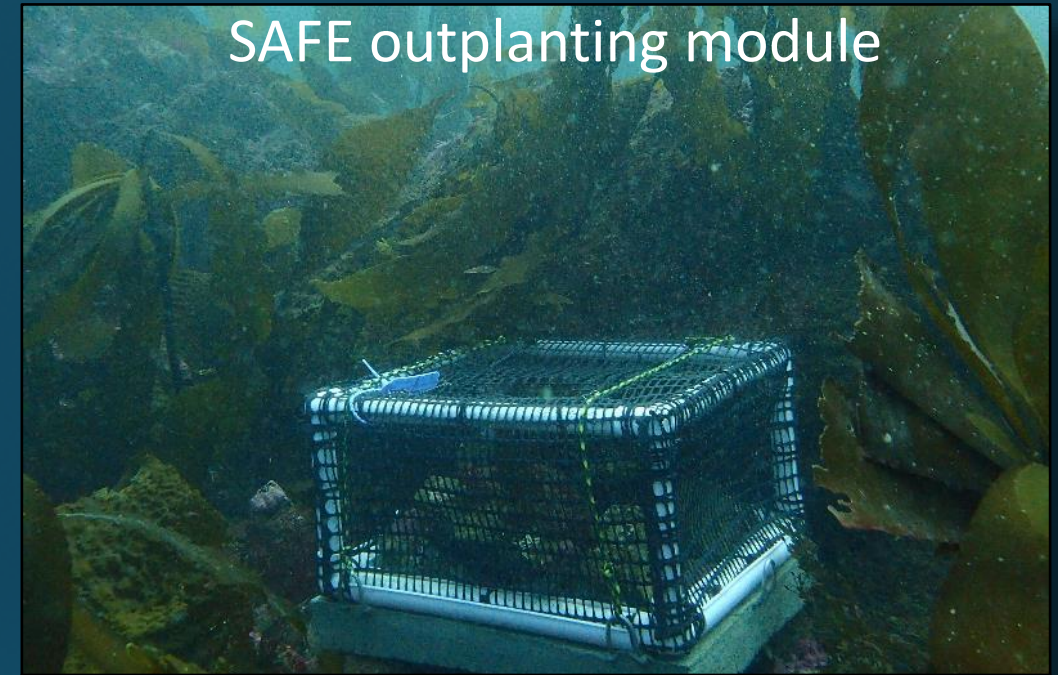


- Restored 0.22 acres for a total of 55.44 acres since 2013, including pre-restoration and post-restoration monitoring
- Completed pre-restoration monitoring on an additional 0.89 acres of urchin barren for future restoration



TBF Marine Program: Abalone Restoration Program

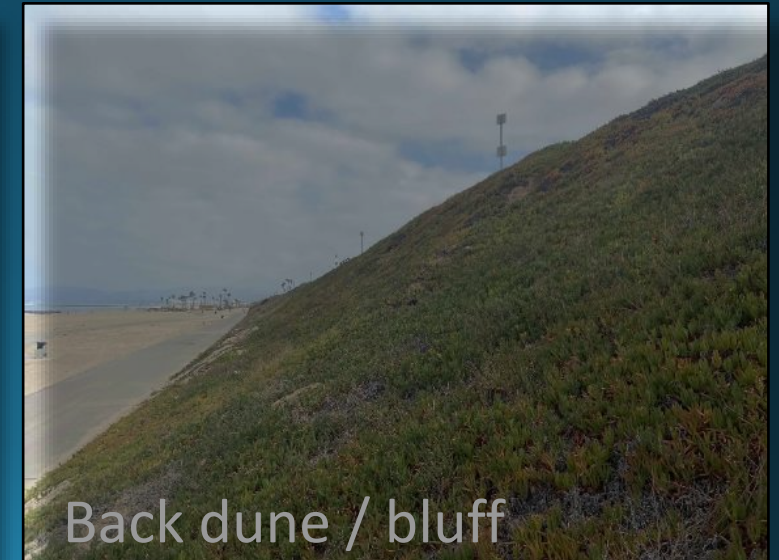
- Outplanted 324 endangered white abalone into SAFEs (1,979 since project inception)
- Outplanted 109,000 cultured red abalone larvae
- Habitat characterization, Time Lapse Camera (TLC) monitoring, and water chemistry analysis of the outplant site
- Continued care and maintenance of abalone aquaculture facility



TBF Marine + Watershed Programs: Los Angeles Living Shoreline Project



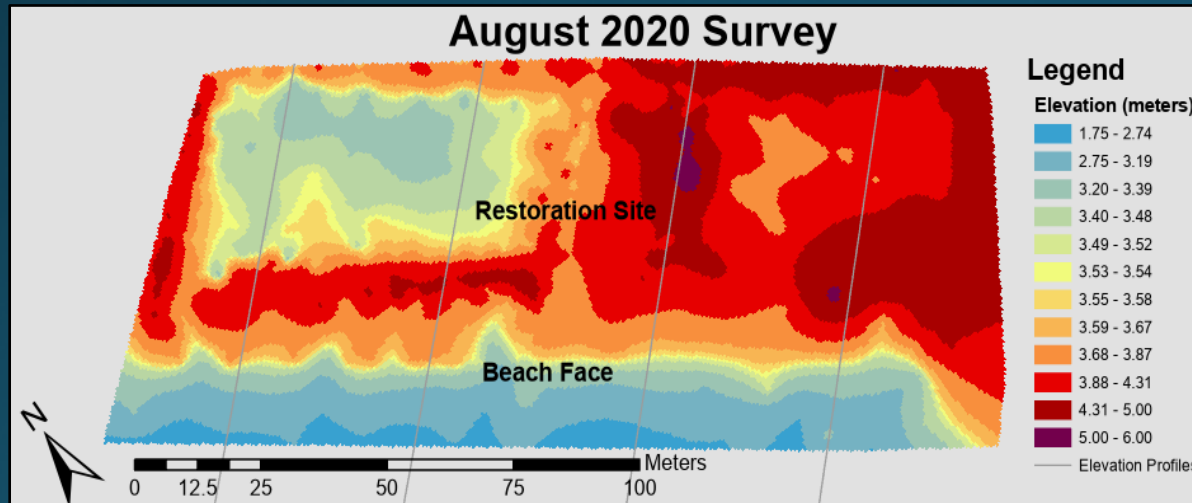
- Planning and restoration design are ongoing – site plan analysis, prospective renderings, and interpretive signage in development
- Baseline monitoring is being conducted for all three habitat types
- Coordination with many partners and agencies, funding from Coastal Conservancy and Honda Marine Science Foundation



TBF Watershed Program: Santa Monica Beach Pilot Project

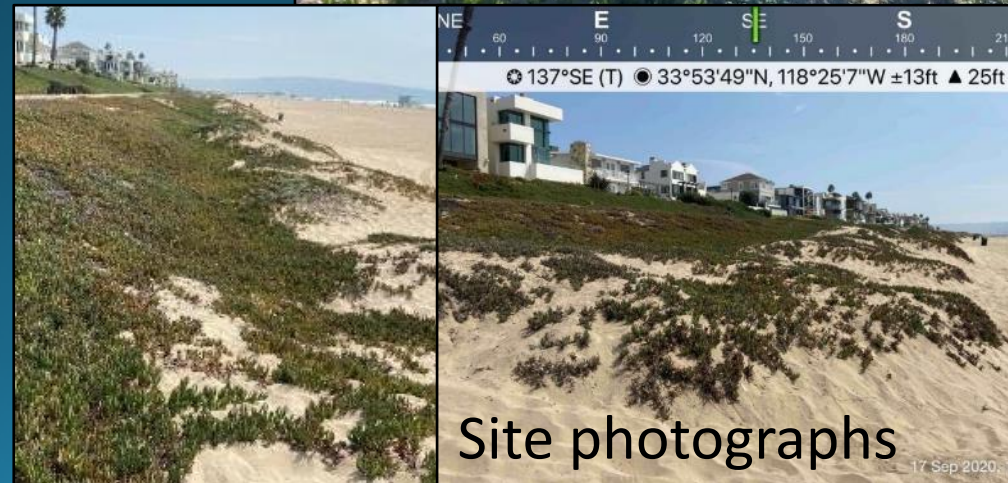


- Completed Year 4 Report
- Plant cover increasing annually
- Over a meter of dune growth in some areas; southern portion of site has raised elevation of approximately 0.5 m
- Scientific publication in Shore and Beach



TBF Watershed Program: Manhattan Beach Dune Restoration

- Innovative video tool for public outreach
- Planning and restoration design are ongoing – site plan analysis, prospective renderings, and interpretive signage in development
- Baseline monitoring and control site monitoring occurred this summer
- Contacted stakeholder groups, gave presentations, presented at ASBPA conference



Site photographs



CRI Programs:

Beach Characterization and Site Suitability

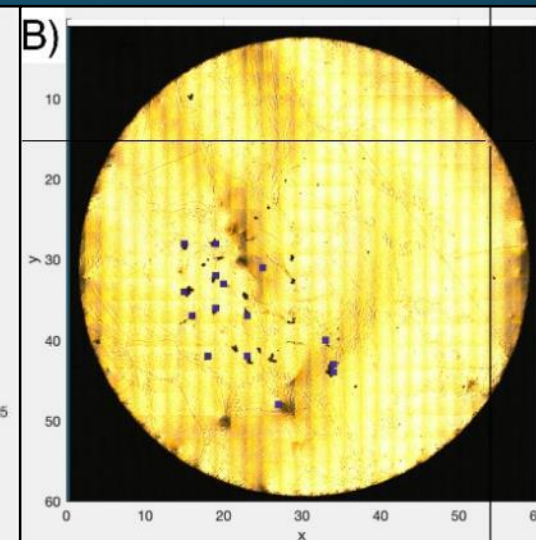
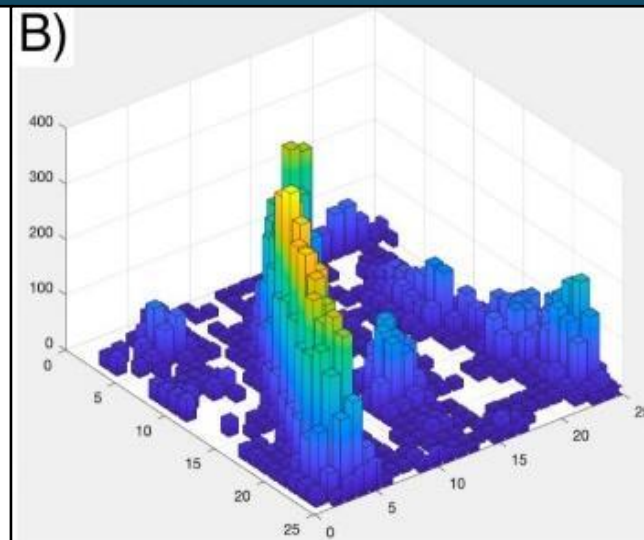
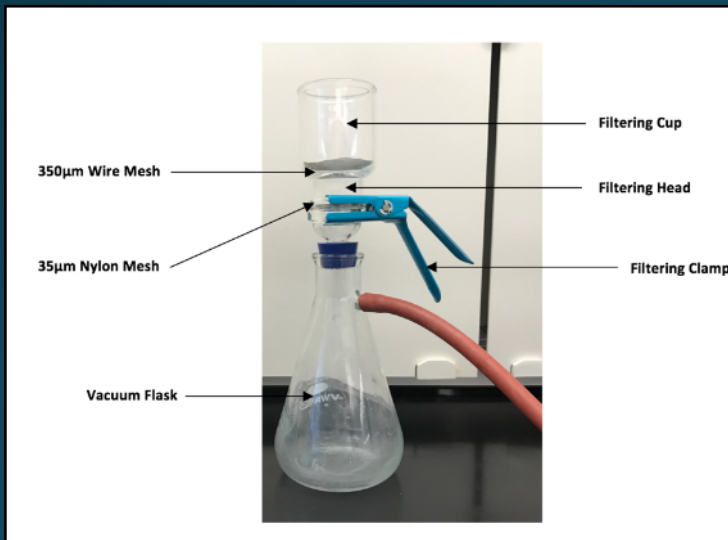


- Completed data analysis and report draft for 11 surveyed beaches
 - Planning for four additional sites (fall/winter 2020)
- Collecting data on elevation, topography, plant cover, beach width and other physical parameters, wrack, human and wildlife checklists
- Pilot study with LACDBH and State Parks on site suitability model for beach restoration



CRI Programs: Microplastics Research

- Drafting protocol manuscript with an emphasis on sediment extraction and IR spectroscopy mapping to expedite processing time
- Collected sand from many sites throughout Santa Monica Bay to inform ambient microplastics presence and type
- Microplastics in intertidal organisms research was suspended due to COVID

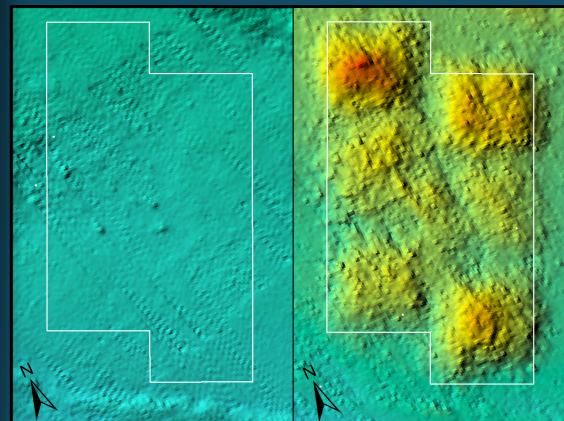


SMBRC Proposition 12: Palos Verdes Restoration Reef Project

- Leads: Southern California Marine Institute and Vantuna Research Group
- Completed construction of all six artificial reef blocks
- Continued dive and sonar surveys to verify construction and monitor sediment/rock movement

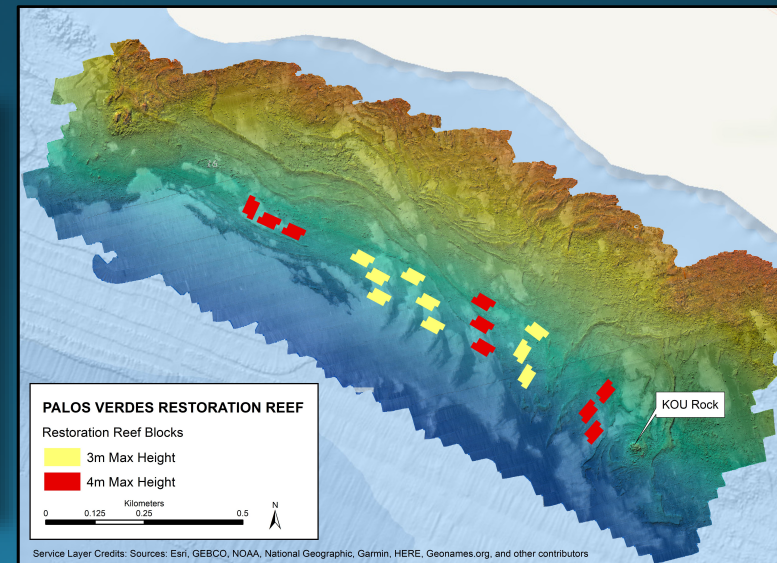


Figure 4. Sloped quarry rock leading up to the peak of the northwestern 4-m submodule. Photo by Chelsea Williams.



Before

After



SMBRC Proposition 12: Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo

- Lead: Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- Completed construction of Demonstration Facility and held virtual grand opening
- Demonstration Facility serves to educate customers on “closing the sustainability loop” and the effectiveness and safety of the process, test alternatives, and train employees



SMBRC Proposition 84: Westwood Neighborhood Greenway Project

- Lead: City of LA Bureau of Sanitation
- Completed construction of two vegetated bioswales, diversion and pumping facilities, hydrodynamic separator, and walkway



SMBRC Proposition 84: Santa Monica Bay Catch Basin Insert Project



- Lead: City of Rancho Palos Verdes
- Installed connector pipe screen units in all suitable catch basins (1,112 total units)

